

Iowa Chapter of APCO Spring Business Meeting Minutes
Tuesday April 9th, 2024, 12:30 PM – 1:00 PM
Airport Holiday Inn Conference Center
6111 Fleur Dr., Des Moines IA 50321

In attendance: Stacen Gross – GeoComm, Amber Roberts – LeeComm, Angela Dobyns – Pottawattamie County Communications Division, Cara Sorrells – Washington County Communications, Todd Malone - SECC, Chris Jasper – Muscom, Jason Hoffman – Carroll Communications Center, Dallas Chargo – Carroll Communications Center, Rhonda Braudis – Marshall County Communications Commission, Brenda Wright – Fayette County 911, Eric Nevins – Lifetime Member (retired), Alicia Scott – Dallas County EMA, Amanda Pyle – Story County 911, Tony Keefe - LeeComm, Marsha Southwick – O’Brien County SO, and Nic Briseno – Story County SO.

The 2024 Spring APCO business meeting was called to order at 12:49 PM by Secretary Cara Sorrells, Washington County. Angie Dobyns, Pottawattamie County Communications Division made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Tony Keefe, LeeComm seconded the motion, and the agenda was approved without opposition. Secretary Cara Sorrells then asked for the members to review the 2023 Fall business meeting minutes from October 31st, 2023. They were not sent out in time to approve at this business meeting, but will be sent out for approval at the 2024 Fall business meeting, in addition to the meeting minutes from the 2024 Spring Conference.

Nick Laning from Advocacy Strategies was unable to be present at the meeting. He was busy at the Capital working on our legislative priorities. The elimination of the 911 Council has been removed from the House side and they are working on conversations with the Senate. Also, a priority is the diversion of the 3 million dollars from the 911 Program funds to the School Safety Grant Program bill. These conversations are ongoing and developments could happen every day and rapidly throughout the end of this legislative session. Lobby Day was held this year on February 27th, 2024, and several representatives of both APCO and NENA were present in the Capital rotunda to touch on both of these issues.

The next item on the agenda was the Treasurer’s report. The Treasurer’s report was presented by Treasurer Eric Nevins. Nevins presented the balances of the accounts and explained them. The general fund for the period of calendar year 2023 began with a starting balance of \$36,340.26. There were expenditures totaling \$10,795.16 and revenue totaling \$5,923.12 for a balance of \$31,468.22. For calendar year 2024 to date there have been expenditures totaling \$1,859.51 and revenue totaling \$3,435.58 leaving us with a current balance of \$33,044.29. The Joanne Perkins scholarship fund for calendar year 2023 started with a balance of \$10,799.34 and had expenditures totaling \$1,399.68 and revenue totaling \$393.28 for a balance of \$9,792.94. For calendar year 2024 to date there has been revenue (interest) of \$87.28 for a current calendar year balance of \$9,880.22. The conference fund for the calendar year 2023 began with a balance of \$6,465.01. There were expenditures totaling \$35,381.96 and revenue totaling \$46,552.39 for a balance of \$17,635.44. For the calendar year 2024 to date there were expenditures totaling \$797.53 and revenues totaling \$27,009.80 for a current ending conference balance of \$43,847.71. There is still a CD for \$10,000 and our current assets total \$87,272.36. Nevins also detailed the NENA pass through fund. The NENA fund for the calendar year 2023 started with a balance of \$91.94 and had revenue totaling \$27,005.62 and expenditures of \$27,097.56 forwarded to NENA leaving a zero balance. For calendar year 2024 to date the fund began with the zero balance and has income of \$19,165.85 which was forwarded to Iowa NENA leaving a current zero balance. After the Spring conference the hotel bill will be divided, and the NENA portion paid out to Treasurer Amanda Pyle. Chris Jasper, Muscom made a motion to approve the financial report provided by Nevins. The

motion was seconded by Angie Dobyms, Pottawattamie County Communications Division and approved unanimously.

The Executive Council report was next on the agenda. Eric Dau, Clinton County Communications has changed employment but he did send a written report to Todd Malone for the meeting. See below:

The Executive Council continues to make health and wellness for ECC employees a top priority. The biggest issue that APCO is advocating for, as it has been for years, is the reclassification for Telecommunicators. There has also been a restricting of one of the Executive Council Committees. The Conference and Exposition Committee has been eliminated. APCO has taken the stance that they have professional staff to take care of these functions and it was redundant for a volunteer committee to also fulfill this role. It is otherwise a quiet time for the Executive Council.

Activities & Membership – Todd Malone, SECC reported that memberships were at 488 members. This was due in part to group memberships. The winners of the Spring Conference scholarships were Erin Froning – Clear Lake PD, Josh Pihl– LeeComm, Andrea Hythecker – SECC, and Julie Archer – Winneshiek County 911 Communications Center. They will be working on planning the upcoming Fall Conference.

Historical – Amanda Pyle, Story County 911 had nothing to report.

Training – Angela Dobyms, Pottawattamie County Communications Division had no report.

Telecommunicator of the Year – Chris Jasper, Muscom advised that NENA/APCO brought back an actual awards banquet with new awards sponsored by NENA. He worked hard to promote it and is interested in any feedback. It was held in the vendor hall to include all of our vendor sponsors.

Telecommunicator Training Board – Chris Jasper, Muscom and Angie Dobyms, Pottawattamie County Communications gave a brief update. They advised that the 40-hour training waivers have been put on hold. They are presenting the ILEA 40-hour training at different locations throughout the state and it seems to be going in a good direction. The new director seems to understand the goals and it has been more productive than in past years.

Iowa E911 Council – Cara Sorrells, Washington County Communications gave the following update:

- DPS Cedar Falls now 24 x 7 – 111 PSAPs
- Presenting the FY '21-22 biannual expenditure report at the April meeting
- Additional swatting resources on the Google shared site (in cooperation with CISA). There are a lot of resources on that site, including their own cyber-assessment and Scott County's.
- All 99 counties are continuing to meet the GIS benchmarks
- Training funds paid for the NENA speaker today. Also paid for Westcom training coming up on May 20th, 21st, 22nd "How to Save a Life, Yours!" by Tracey Eldridge of the Public Safety Group. There are three consecutive days of a one-day session and all have a virtual option.
- Training request – 9 months Statewide virtual training \$26,500 (have list of hundreds of topics)
- The disaster recovery trailer was recently deployed to Palo Alto County for a remodel project, and they took live calls out of it for the first time for 4-5 days. It is available if this is something you are doing.
- Chair Rotter recently met with Director Carney from ILEA

- 911 Commission possible elimination legislation
- HSB692 – new bill HF 2652 – 3 million dollars diversion 911 funds
- Next meeting Thursday April 11th at 0930 – virtual option or in-person at Dallas County

Legislative – Michelle Campbell, SECC was absent.

Corporate Advisory – Stacen Gross, Geo-Comm. Stacen reported that we were down two vendors this conference. We had 23 last year and this year there are 21. There are 2 Platinum vendors, 3 Gold vendors, and 15 Silvers vendors. We also have one complimentary vendor (Chris Maiers with CISA). We need to remember to get the members in the vendor hall. The more foot traffic and time spent there the better for the vendors. It makes it worthwhile to come here and support Iowa APCO/NENA. The vendors this year would have liked to see traffic during the Monday morning break with NENA.

Frequency Coordination – Nic Briseno, Story County SO reported that he has been working on concurrences for APCO with other coordinators. There has not been a lot on the Iowa side. There has been a lot of debate about the 4.9 GHz public safety spectrum and who should control it. The crux of the issue is should it be assigned to the FirstNet Authority. There are also differing opinions about the role that utilities and other critical-infrastructure entities should have within the band. There are several different groups filing (for and opposed) comments to FCC with regards to it going to FirstNet and AT&T. Two with a lot of voices/comments recently are PSSA (Public Safety Spectrum Alliance) and CERCI (Coalition for Emergency Response and Critical Infrastructure).

Constitution and By-Laws – Shanna Krogmeier, DESCOM was absent.

Joanne Perkins/Jan Visser Scholarship – Todd Malone, SECC reported that he received 9 applications and reported earlier on the winners. The number of applicants was up from previous years. He had several first-time applicants and people who applied that this was their first time coming to a conference.

Under new business was an update and discussion regarding the Fall 2024 Conference. It will be held again here at the Airport Holiday Inn on October 14th and 15th, 2024. There will be more to come on the speakers and details.

There are openings for the APCO Member-At-Large position and the Executive Council position due to Eric Dau's resignation from Clinton County Communications. President Alicia Scott is taking names of interested parties. Nic Briseno, Story County SO expressed interest and already attends the National Conferences in his role as the Frequency Coordinator.

Angie Dobyms, Pottawattamie County Communications Division made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Tony Keefe, LeeComm seconded Dobyms' motion and the meeting was adjourned at 1:22 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Cara L. Sorrells, Iowa APCO Secretary
Washington County Communications